

thecollegian

INDEPENDENT VOICE FOR KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

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K-State, Manhattan area news

BY KAREN SARITA INGRAM
THE COLLEGIAN

City announces registration for summer children's activities, camps

The Manhattan Department of Parks and Recreation has announced a number of activities and camps for area children to participate in this summer. Some of these include Swim America, which teaches children how to swim, and Youth Theater, which includes a production of "Captain Louis, Jr." for ages 5-11 and the musical "Once Upon a Mattress" for ages 12-18. A full list of available activities can be found on the city's website.

In addition, Flint Hills Discovery Center has openings for their Adventure Camp for grades K-6. The Sunset Zoo is also offering a number of classes and summer camp activities for children of all ages to learn about animals and participate in crafts, zoo tours, games and more.

Online and walk-in registration begins April 14 at 8 a.m. at the Parks and Recreation office, 1101 Fremont Street.

K-State Olathe to hold information session for prospective students

K-State Olathe has announced they will be holding an information session on the Olathe campus on April 16 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Prospective students can meet members of the faculty and learn more about degree options available at K-State Olathe, the admissions process, scholarships and more. For more information or to RSVP for the event, visit olathe.k-state.edu/academic-initiatives/future-students/information_session.html.

Touchstone Magazine seeks volunteers for archives

Touchstone, the official literary magazine of K-State, is seeking help in creating digital archives of their print editions going back to 1960. Volunteers would be responsible for scanning print copies of the literary magazine held in Hale Library's Special Collections and would be considered part of the Touchstone staff for the 2014 edition. For more information or to volunteer, contact Editor-in-Chief Corrina Honeycutt at touch@k-state.edu.

Round and round they go



HANNAH HUNSINGER | THE COLLEGIAN

Isis Roberts, 9, Lluvia Beverly, 5, and Daija Roberts, 7, hang onto the spinning merry-go-round in CiCo Park on Tuesday afternoon.

Students join Hollywood actors in local independent film

BY JON PARTON
THE COLLEGIAN

A little bit of Hollywood is coming to Manhattan soon. A feature-length movie called "Hell Town" will begin filming in late May, starring Casey Chapman, Amanda Deibert, Pleasant Gehman and Chris Pudlo. In addition to cast of Hollywood in the film, several K-State students will be highlighted in leading roles.

Cara Hillstock, senior in English, is one of them. Hillstock said she found out about the movie in December.

"The director called me and asked if I wanted to audition," Hillstock said. "I had auditioned for one of his previous movies and he remembered who I was."

Hillstock described "Hell Town" as a soap opera slasher movie. Although this will not be Hillstock's first time in film, it will be the first time she plays a lead role in a movie.

"I'm really excited about it," Hillstock said. "I can't reveal too much, but I play Manda, who is best friends with the lead character Trish."

Another student cast in the film is Ben Windholz, senior in communication studies. This is the second time Windholz has been cast in a film. He plays Butch Manly, a character who has returned home from a long time away.

"It's kind of a genre-bending movie," Windholz said. "It's a satirical look at comedy, TV and horror."

The co-director of the film, Steve Balderson, graduated from Manhattan High before moving on to the California Institute of the Arts. His co-director is Elizabeth Spears, an independent filmmaker from Texas.

Balderson said the story design of the film is unique and draws from the idea of watching multiple episodes of a TV series in a row on services like Netflix.

"We really structure the movie as season two, episodes seven, eight and nine of a TV show," Balderson



HANNAH HUNSINGER | THE COLLEGIAN

Cara Hillstock, senior in English, Blake Cordell, sophomore music, Becki Jo Neill and Ben Windholz, senior in communication studies, have all been cast in the independent movie "Hell Town." The cast for the Manhattan-based film, to be shot in May, also includes K-State theater professor Dwight Tolar and alumna Krysten Day.

said. "So the first thing you'll hear is, 'Previously on Hell Town' as it catches you up on what happened before. Even though the movie is presented as a show, it has a very real structure. Each episode acts as act one, two and three."

Between each episode will be a fake commercial. Balderson described the story as a combination of "Scream" along with "Dynasty" or "Days of Our Lives" with "Halloween" thrown in.

"People start getting killed, but the characters aren't paying attention," Balderson said. "These people are completely oblivious to what's going on."

Balderson has been making movies as an independent filmmaker for about 16 years. His previous films include "Pep Squad," "The

Casserole Club" and "Firecracker." Although he shot films in different places around the world, he said he still enjoys filming in Kansas.

"Unlike filming in bigger cities, it's easier to get around and less expensive to film there," Balderson said. "Ultimately, it has to do with more freedom. The state gives independent filmmakers more freedom."

The director has shot four movies in Kansas. Part of the joy of filming in a small community is connecting to the place, according to Balderson.

"I like to involve, 'What is that place?'" Balderson said. "We ask people before shooting, 'Does your family want to sponsor a meal for the cast and crew?' What is the culture here?"

Balderson said he likes to work with people in the community and

expose Hollywood actors to the state.

"People from Hollywood are amazed," Balderson said. "It's really unlike anything they've seen before. Some will want to go and visit the Oz Museum. They just haven't had the experience of being here."

The filmmaker said he has received a lot of support from Kansas communities, with many people offering their homes or businesses to use for filming. Balderson said he also enjoys using local talent like students from K-State.

"The people we gathered for Hell Town are incredible," Balderson said. "I like to look everywhere. Wherever I go, there's always a good person who hasn't gotten a break yet or an opportunity to be seen."

"Hell Town" is slated for release in 2015.

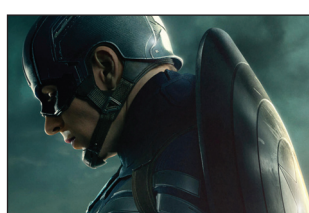
INSIDE

SOCIAL MEDIA

WEATHER



3 Football team talks future, spring practice



4 Captain America film explores cost of freedom

This Day in History

1913: The 17th Amendment was ratified, requiring the direct election of U.S. senators by popular vote rather than by the state legislatures.

<http://www.infoplease.com/dayinhistory#ixzz2yJtFzBfs>



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16 Live-in nurse, perhaps
18 Missis-sippi Delta feature
20 Flop
21 Ms. Moore
24 Olym-pian's award
28 Lax
32 Un-accom-pa-nied
33 Actress Gardner
34 Hangout for Van Gogh and Gauguin
36 "— the ramparts ..."

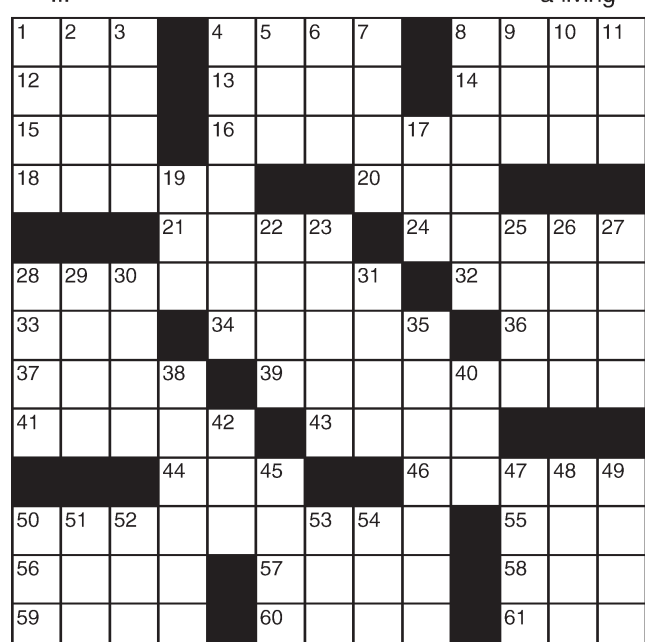
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3 Vacation-ing
4 School (Sp.)
5 Shell game item
6 Golf goal
7 Coaster
8 Moves effort-lessly
9 Gun the engine
10 Indivisible
11 Combat
17 Wrigley product
19 Praise in verse
22 Hired soldier, for short
23 Moham-medanism
25 Entrance
26 Sheltered
27 Tradition-al tales
28 Rotating parts
29 Acknowl-edge
30 Eastern royal
31 Antitoxins
35 Battens down
38 Thing
40 Shriner's chapeau
42 Perched
45 Mediter-ranean strip
47 Barber-shop quartet
48 World's fair
49 Jailer's janglers
50 Jam ingredi-ent?
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53 St. Bernard's burden
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Solution time: 21 mins.

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Yesterday's answer 4-9



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The Collegian does not publish open letters, third-party letters or letters that have been sent to other publications or people.

CORRECTIONS

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, call managing editor Jena Sauber at 785-532-6556 or email news@kstatecollegian.com.

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Horribly Right | By Kathleen Murray



The Weekly Planner

Wednesday, April 9

Walk-in Wednesday
Holtz Hall
noon to 4 p.m.

Age of Champions
K-State Alumni Center
4–6:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 10

Doctoral Dissertation:
Kristen Kuhlman
368 Bluemont Hall
10 a.m.

Student Recital Series
All Faiths Chapel
11:30 a.m.

Mathematics Colloquium
Lecture: Distribution of Points on Varieties Over Finite Fields
102 Cardwell Hall
2:30 p.m.

Geoscience webinar
109 Justin Hall
4-5 p.m.

First Job 411
Room 227,
K-State Student Union
4-5 p.m.

K-State Tap Dance Ensemble Annual Showcase
Danforth and
All Faiths Chapels
6 p.m.

Week of the Young Child Celebration
Beach Museum of Art
6-7:30 p.m.

K-State Computers and Technology Movie Series: Sunshine
127 Nichols Hall
7 p.m.

Friday, April 11

Education Extravaganza
Bluemont Hall
8 a.m. to noon

Chester E. Peters Lecture in Student Development
Town Hall,
Leadership Studies Building
10:30 a.m. to noon

International Conservation Biologist Speaker: Claire Kremen
103 Cardwell Hall
1:30 p.m.

Newest Research in Brain-based Learning: Jane Fishback presenter
Hemisphere Room,
Hale Library
2-4 p.m.

Latvia Coffee Hour
International Student Center
4-5 p.m.

24th Annual Libraries Gala
Great Room,
Hale Library
6-10 p.m.

Marlatt Casino Night
Tower Building,
Jardine Apartments
7-9:30 p.m.

Student Recital Series: Honors Recital
Kirmser Hall,
McCain Auditorium
7:30 p.m.

UPC Film: "Manhattan"
Little Theatre,
K-State Student Union
8 p.m.

K-State After Hours: Comedian Jessi Campbell
Forum Hall,
K-State Student Union
10 p.m.

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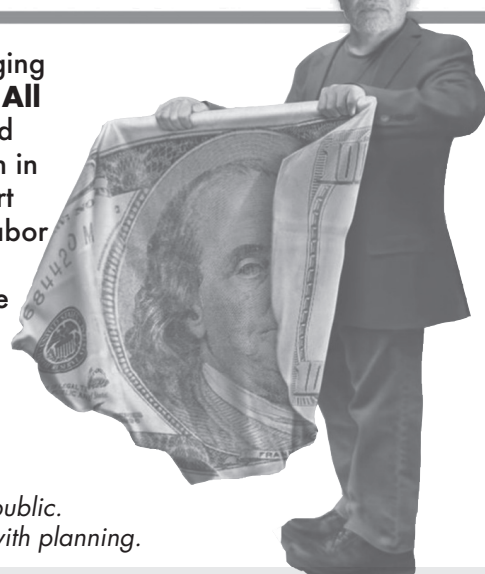
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BASEBALL

Wildcats slip past Shockers in tight 3-2 win

By JOHN ZETMEIR
THE COLLEGIAN

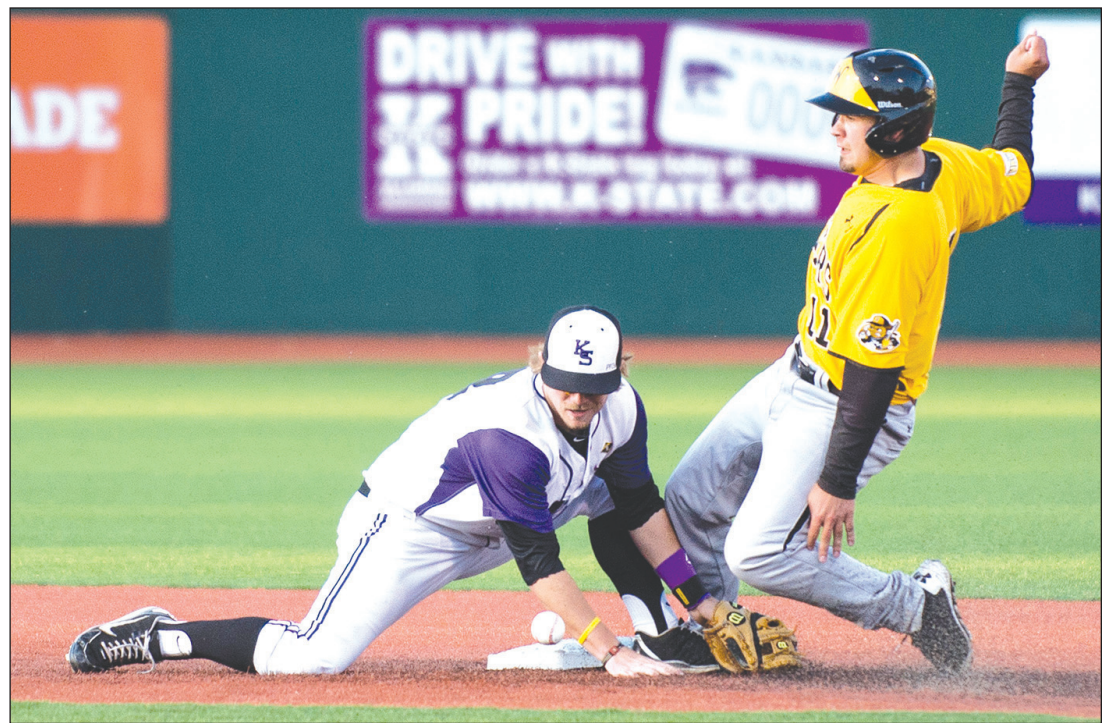
Three runs were all the Wildcats could conjure up on Tuesday evening in Tointon Family Stadium. That was all they would appear to need, however, as they defeated the Wichita State Shockers 3-2.

"We were hoping to get some momentum," K-State head coach Brad Hill said. "That was a gutted out win tonight and we needed it really bad. I thought we fought really hard."

The game got interesting down the stretch. With one out, the Shockers had the tying runner at third base and another runner at first. Wichita State sophomore outfielder Daniel Kihle got caught in a rundown and was tagged out at third giving the Shockers two outs. Junior first baseman Casey Gillaspie was then tagged out at third on a ground ball to end the game.

Sophomore pitcher Jake Matthys was responsible for getting the Wildcats out of the jam. He was credited with a save, pitching four innings while allowing no runs and striking out five batters.

"That was really good to see,"



EMILY DeSHAZER | THE COLLEGIAN

K-State sophomore second baseman **Lance Miles** tries to field a catch as **Dayne Parker** slides into second base on Tuesday at Tointon Family Stadium. Parker was called safe as Miles bobbled the catch, but the Shockers lost 3-2.

Hill said. "Really good stuff tonight, command of the zone, two seem had run in it again tonight. Great pitches in crucial situations."

Matthys has struggled at times this season. He now has a season ERA of 7.41 and three saves in 12 appearances. Last season, Matthys

was named the Big 12 freshman of the year. His 73 pitches against the Shockers was his second most in an outing during his K-State career thus

far.

"It felt great," Matthys said. "I've been struggling a little bit this year and it's good to actually have some confidence in myself and get out there and have the coaches have confidence in me."

The Wildcats had the bats going early, as senior third baseman RJ Santigate knocked in two runs to get the game started in the first inning after senior center fielder Ross Kivett singled to first and senior infielder Shane Conlon was hit by a pitch.

The Shockers would answer with one run of their own in the second inning before the Wildcats pushed it back to a two-run game in the third. Freshman designated hitter Tyler Stover would add the insurance run in the third inning, Conlon would come around to score.

The Wildcats will have a quick turnaround as they will travel up to Lincoln, Neb. today and take on Nebraska tonight. They enter the game with a 19-13 record after the win against Wichita State. The Cornhuskers have won four straight home games entering Wednesday night's game.

"Rough," Hill said about the quick turn around. "Go home, go to bed and go to Nebraska and that's going to be a tough place up there."

FOOTBALL

K-State continues to build on successes after first week of spring practice

By JOHN ZETMEIR
THE COLLEGIAN

The last time the Wildcats took off their pads, it was after a victory over the all-time winningest program in NCAA history in the Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl. Now the Wildcats will look to ride that momentum from the first bowl win in 10 years into the spring and into the fall season.

"I addressed our players on numerous occasions about not starting over again even though it is a different mix of young people," K-State head coach Bill Snyder said Tuesday afternoon. "But I really wanted to start right where we finished and build on that."

K-State began their spring preparation last Wednesday when they practiced for the first time this year. The NCAA allows teams

15 practices during the spring season; the 15th practice will be the annual spring game for the Wildcats.

One big story that has unfolded since the bowl game has been the position change for junior Daniel Sams. In his first two seasons at K-State, Sams was a quarterback. But now, instead of throwing passes, he will be in position to catch them as a wide receiver.

"I told Daniel that if he wants to try his hand at wide receiver, that I would certainly give him the opportunity," Snyder said. "He's working at the wide receiver position and he's growing. From a learning standpoint, he understood all the schemes and so he knew assignments of wide receivers. What he didn't understand was the execution."

A big reason for the position change has been the growth of junior quarterback Jake Waters. Last season, the

junior college transfer struggled at times, but finished the season on a high note. He completed nearly 78 percent of his passes against Michigan, throwing for 271 yards and three touchdowns.

A big hole has been left in the backfield after the graduation of three-year starter John Hubert. The Wildcats will now have to find his replacement at running back. During his time at K-State, Hubert carried the ball 599 times for 2,993 yards and 28 touchdowns. The competition will be between junior running back DeMarcus Robinson and two players who were on the scout team last season.

"It's going to be very competitive," Snyder said about the running back spot. "There are three young guys right now, (Charles) Jones, (Jarvis) Leverett and (Robinson) and I wouldn't pick one right now. (Robinson) is at the top of the chart right now



PARKER ROBB | THE COLLEGIAN

Junior defensive end **Ryan Mueller** answers media questions Tuesday relating to carrying the momentum from the Buffalo Wild Wings bowl victory into spring practice and the annual spring game.

because he came out in that position from the fall."

The Wildcats have had

four practices so far this season. The Wildcats will have a "full-scale" scrimmage today, according to Snyder. The spring game is scheduled for Saturday, April 26.

Drowning in debt

Students fail to pay increasing loans

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LECTURE SERIES

'Captain America: The Winter Soldier' sets high summer-movie bar

Captain America: The Winter Soldier

★★★★☆

Movie review by Connor Kelley

Captain America is an important hero for the modern age. He doesn't represent our country as it is, but as we wish it could be. He's noble and idealistic, both worthy of trust and quick to trust others.

Steve Rogers, Captain America's alter ego, embodies one of the last bastions of optimism in a genre that is increasingly defined by brooding and cynicism.

If Captain America is our nation as it should be, then S.H.I.E.L.D. is our nation as it is. "Captain America: The Winter Soldier" finds our star-spangled hero becoming disillusioned with his current employer. Their secretive methods began eating away at his conscience during "The Avengers," and S.H.I.E.L.D. seems to have only gotten worse.

When S.H.I.E.L.D. Director Nick Fury begins to suspect that his organization has been compromised, Rogers must quickly discover who he can trust and who is out to kill him. He joins forces with both old friends and new to take down whoever is pulling the strings.

Marvel's track record when it comes to stand-alone movies is debatable, but few people would argue that Marvel doesn't know how to pick its actors. Rogers, played by Chris Evans, is one of the few comic book heroes that hasn't become overshadowed by his alter-ego.

Scarlett Johansson continues to impress as Natasha Romanov, also known as Black Widow, and newcomer Sam Wilson, played by Anthony Mackie, fits into the proceedings quite nicely.

The film wisely juxtaposes Captain America's unwavering idealism with Black Widow's harsh pragmatism. There's a decent amount of time dedicated to the budding friendship between these two. In this world, people you can trust are few and far between.

"Captain America: The Winter Sol-

dier" is a bit of a hybrid film, with all the intrigue and paranoia of a political thriller mixed with all the action and explosions of the superhero genre. The combination works surprisingly well. It serves to keep audience members on their toes throughout the film, constantly second-guessing characters and their motivations.

The film is easily the most socially relevant of the Marvel movies. At a time when many people have lost faith in their government, the film begs the question of whether or not security is worth the price of freedom.

For all its social commentary though, this is first and foremost an action movie, and a finely crafted one at that. Captain America and Black Widow are some of the most limited heroes in Marvel's repertoire, which means that the filmmakers had to work that much harder to make their fights interesting. Unfortunately, the film occasionally comes down with a case of the shaky camera hands. However, the action is still fluid, kinetic and incredibly satisfying for the most part.

Rather ironically, the weakest link here is the Winter Soldier, Captain America's most threatening enemy himself. It is difficult to discuss his flaws without spoiling the story, but suffice to say, a lot of effort went in to making him a personal villain for Captain America. However, the film develops the Winter Soldier's character so little that his origins end up feeling contrived and his mere existence seems unjustified by the time the credits roll.

Cynics might argue that this film is just a movie-length trailer for the sequel to the movie "Avengers: Age of Ultron," to be released in 2015. In a sense, they would be right, especially when it comes to the two post-credits scenes.

It is a shame that no Marvel movie is permitted to stand on its own anymore. That said, "Captain America: The Winter Soldier" is a welcome change of pace for the genre. It manages to work its way into the upper echelon of Marvel's superhero movies.

Connor Kelley is a junior in accounting. Please send all comments to edge@kstatecollegian.com.



MARVEL

Differences between introverts, extroverts in classroom setting

BY HAYLEY LOLLAR
THE COLLEGIAN

It is often stated as fact that introverts are people who are shy, and extroverts are people who are outgoing. Although those statements may be true in some cases, they aren't necessarily the best definition of each personality type. Every human being is unique, and their personality types personify these qualities.

According to the Myers-Briggs Typology Assessment, whether someone is an introvert or extrovert is based on how they "recharge," or get their energy.

"I think an extrovert is someone who is energized by being around people and an introvert is someone who is energized by having alone time," Brigid Hornsby, senior in hotel and restaurant management, said.

In this definition, extroverts often thrive and find energy from being surrounded by their peers. In contrast, introverts feel drained after being around others for an extended period of time and require time alone to re-energize.

Challenges

With each personality style comes different challenges in a collegiate setting.

"Studying alone is very difficult for me," Hornsby, who identifies herself as an extrovert, said. "I like to study with people, but sometimes you don't have people to study with."

William Lienberger, junior in agribusiness, said his personality defines him as extroverted. Sometimes, though, Lienberger said he thinks his outgoing mannerisms may get him in trouble.

"A challenge for me is speaking before I think," he said. "It can get you in trouble like with a job or internship. It could also hurt connections for the future."

Other challenges some extroverts have experienced include continuing conversations with fellow classmates, instead of being focused and attentive to what's happening in a class.

"Working with a full group of extroverted people, everyone wants to do things their way," Hornsby said. "And they're more vocal about it. I think sometimes it's better to have people that are just going to go with the flow."

Introverts have challenges in similar areas as extroverts, but for different reasons.

Inverted students

Ana Chacon, senior in family studies and human services and self-identified introvert, said that group projects can be undesirable. While Hornsby said she would rather take charge of a group project, Chacon said she would rather not be in a group at all.

"I'd rather just know what I need to do and get it done myself, instead of trying to collaborate ideas with others," Chacon said.

Chacon said she also finds it difficult to make new connections with her peers.

"I don't like small talk," Chacon said. "It's really a struggle for me to meet new people and initiate the conversation."

Although Chacon said it may be difficult to make new friends as an introvert, she said she finds that a benefit is being able to hold heartfelt conversations and be invested in the lives of her friends.

"I like in-depth conversation," Chacon said. "I feel like I have deep connections with my friends."

Professors and advisers may have to handle each personality type differently in their classes or meetings.

Rebecca Dale, adviser for the department of hospitality management and dietetics, said she changes her level of energy depending on if she is meeting with an introverted or extroverted student.

"With introverts, I know I need to be on their same level, maybe being a little bit quieter," Dale said. "They take their time with their answers, so I don't rush them."

Dale said meetings with extroverted students are more fast-paced.

"They're thinking about things just as fast as I'm talking about them," Dale said.

Class formats

Depending on the layout of a class, there are opportunities for each personality style to be involved in the discussion. For introverts, professors may use polls or surveys to get their feedback. Conversely, for extroverts, professors may open the floor for class discussion.

"If it's a big lecture and there are 100 people in the class, the extroverts are going to talk and the introverts won't," Dale said.

Dale also said for the introverted students, it would be beneficial to give a paper survey that they could put their name on for credit, but wouldn't have to say their thoughts out loud to the class.

There may be challenges each personality style faces, but there are benefits for both, as well. Introverts take time in thinking before they speak allowing them to formulate well-thought out answers, while extroverts enjoy creating new friendships with everyone they interact with.

"I'm an extrovert, so I get excited to be around new people, meeting new people and talking to people," Hornsby said.

Misunderstood
Introverts are sometimes misunderstood. While they are generally more reclusive than extraverted people, it doesn't mean they don't dislike being around people.

"A benefit of being an introvert is being able to talk in front of a large crowd," Chacon said. "It's easier to talk to a group of people that I don't know rather than a one-on-one conversation with a stranger."

While many introverts may prefer to spend time alone or in small groups, it doesn't mean all of them like to be alone 100 percent of the time.

"Introverts are fueled by their alone time, but that doesn't mean they always have to be alone," Hornsby said.

'Infamous: Second Son' thrills more than disappoints; powers its way to success

Infamous: Second Son

★★★★☆

Game review by Tate Steinlage

"With great power comes great responsibility."

The average moviegoer would likely recognize that quote from the popular 2002 film, "Spider-Man." However, the phrase may better suit no other piece of entertainment more than Sucker Punch Production's latest game, "Infamous: Second Son."

On one hand, Sucker Punch was tasked with crafting the biggest and most anticipated PlayStation 4 title since its launch last November, and on the other hand stands the game's narrative itself.

The result is an experience that is both impressive and disappointing at the same time. Yet, the game still finds a way to shine amidst a number of glaring faults, giving fans a good taste of what future exclusives may hold.

"Infamous: Second Son" is the third main installment of the "Infamous" franchise. Designed with Sony's newest console in mind, players assume a new role as Delsin Rowe, a troubled young delinquent who accidentally comes across super-human powers that make him a "Conduit," or "bio-terrorist" according to the public thanks to propaganda from the leader of a new government police force called the Department of Unified Protection.

As the story unfolds, Rowe must deal with the alarming threat of the D.U.P. while learning what it means to be a misunderstood misfit in Seattle by meeting others much like him.

Rather than delve into the lore of the first two titles, Sucker Punch admirably went for a new character in a new city, and it certainly pays off.

The writing of "Infamous: Second Son" is direct, humorous and emotional, aided by the jaw-dropping mo-cap of the voice actors.

The story's most welcomed quality, though, may be how it advances the gameplay. As Rowe learns how to use and handle his new powers, the game strategically gives players new powers to interact with. By the end of the game, players will be able to look back at the evolution of their powers, how you use them and in what situations each becomes a must.

Speaking of gameplay, "Infamous: Second Son" plays silky smooth. Whether one is gliding across the city or firing chunks of rock at enemies, players always feel in control.

But all the control in the world cannot help the one-dimensional, mission-to-mission structure that this game boasts. For an open-world game, "Infamous: Second Son" feels constricted, almost as if all the action was put into a small box and dropped in a huge city.

Sure, players can traverse

the recreated version of Seattle. They will be impressed, too. It's spacious and absolutely stunning. However, there's always this lingering sense that this Seattle is, well, empty.

There is little interaction outside the D.U.P. checkpoints, and the tedious side missions add little-to-no value to the already short eight to 10-hour campaign.

It is frustrating at times to fly across the city and not be able to truly explore it besides its aesthetics. Perhaps Sucker Punch had to forfeit some designs to get the game out in the PlayStation 4 launch window. Or maybe the "limitations" just fit conveniently in their design structure of players' powers being within the world. But it feels like a lost opportunity.

As much as I felt held back during my time with "Infamous: Second Son," I found myself invested equally so. The game is big and beautiful like a next-generation game should be, but its most impressive qualities are its excellent writing, performances and gameplay that almost anyone can pick up and enjoy.

Perhaps "Infamous: Second Son" isn't the console-exclusive killer that PlayStation fans hoped it would be, but even that cannot overshadow what is an enjoyable experience.

Tate Steinlage is a sophomore in mass communications. Please send all comments to edge@kstatecollegian.com.

the FOURUM.
785-260-0207

The Fourum is a quirky view of campus life in voices from the K-State community. Positive and humorous comments are selected for publication by the Collegian marketing staff.

Couches do not belong in public bathrooms. Neither do coffee tables.

Teachers that cancel class are muy bueno in my book.

If Greek Week wanted to have a REAL Hunger Games competition, it should include Basic Rifle Marksmanship and a Combatives tournament.

So, after three weeks of spring/winter, it's now time for spring/summer isn't it?

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PAGE 5



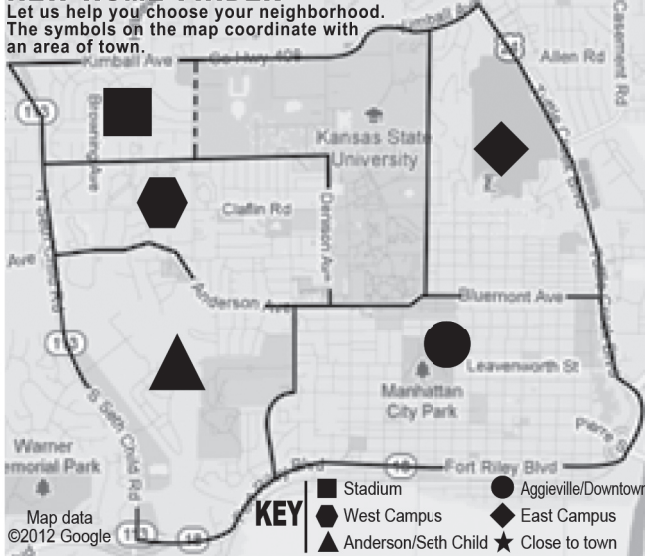
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Raising minimum wage to livable amount motivates people to work harder



KAREN INGRAM
THE COLLEGIAN

Raising the minimum wage is a hot and complicated topic with many, many sides to it. In the end, however, it just comes down to common sense: more money for employees is a great motivation for them to work harder.

President Barack Obama has been encouraging states not to wait for Congress to approve the proposed minimum wage increase and, so far, two states have decided to follow his

advice. On Monday, Maryland's state Legislature approved a bill that would increase minimum wage from \$7.25 per hour to \$10.10 by 2018. This came less than two weeks after Connecticut announced that they would gradually raise minimum wage in their state to \$10.10 per hour from \$8.70 in gradual increases by 2017.

In Kansas, however, news about minimum wage remains oddly quiet. If history repeats itself, I suspect this may very well remain the case for some time.

The last time Kansas raised minimum wage was Jan. 1, 2010 after then-Governor Kathleen Sebelius signed a bill raising it from \$2.65 per hour to the federal standard of \$7.25 per hour. At the time, Kansas had the lowest hourly minimum wage in the country.

Opponents of an increase in minimum wage often argue

that these low-wage jobs are typically held by high school students and are not the main source of income for most families. In a sense, they are correct. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, approximately half of minimum wage workers were between the ages of 16 and 24 in 2012. On the flip side, this also means about half of people earning minimum wage in 2012 were older than 24 years old. This means half of minimum wage workers are older than the average college graduate. When something is split in half like that, it isn't fair to discount the other half just because it doesn't fit into your argument.

Another argument opponents use is that it would wreck small businesses who can't afford such a jump in salary for their employees, but once again this is an argument that is only showing half of the story.

Small Business Majority, a national organization for small business owners in the U.S., conducted a research poll to see where small business owners stand on the subject. The poll involved 500 small businesses representing all 50 states and found that 57 percent of them were in favor of increasing minimum wage. That number was even higher for retail and restaurant owners.

The margin of error for the poll was reported to be plus or minus 4 percent, so even if you subtract 4 percent from that poll, you still get about half in favor and half opposed, with those in favor slightly in the majority. I think it's also interesting to note that 82 percent of the businesses polled already paid their employees more than minimum wage. This means there are a significant number of small business owners out there who

are opposed to increasing minimum wage, even though they already pay their employees more than the current \$7.25 per hour. It doesn't say how much more they pay them, of course, so bragging that you pay your employees more than minimum wage could mean anything.

Aside from all the arguments about the demographics of minimum wage earners, I think the best argument in favor of increasing it is quite simply because it's good motivation for employees. Speaking from personal experience, having worked a lot of low-wage jobs, you kind of stop caring about the quality of your work after a while. Working for \$7.25 an hour is, simply put, depressing. Living from paycheck to paycheck and never having any savings is depressing. Knowing that you'll never be able to afford a new car, let alone be able

to afford retirement, is depressing. And it's of no surprise that depressed workers are unmotivated workers.

Moo Cluck Moo, a fast food burger joint based in Detroit, pays their workers \$12 an hour. The restaurant's co-founder and co-owner, Harry Moorhouse, has told reporters in a number of interviews that he sees this livable wage make a difference in workers' productivity and motivation.

Of course it does. That's just common sense, to me.

The views and opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of The Collegian.

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Fantasy sports winners may claim earnings as deductibles when filing taxes

By LINDSEY STAAB
THE COLLEGIAN

With the 2014 IRS tax filing deadline or "Tax Day" looming on the horizon, questions regarding which items can be considered tax-deductible start to arise. What some people may not know is that winnings from gambling, such as fantasy sports, can count as one of those deductibles.

Fantasy sports, or games where participants build a fantasy team using real-life players (collegiate or professional) and compete against each other based on real-life statistics, are a continually growing hobby for sports enthusiasts.

According to the Fantasy Sports Trade Association demographic research, there were more than 33.5 million Americans and 3.1 million Canadians participating in fantasy sports, in 2013. Of these, 80 percent

of participants are male, with about 78 percent of all participants holding a college degree or better.

Things to keep in mind before filing

Keep a file of all fantasy sports wins and losses in case the IRS chooses to audit you.

Gambling winnings are reported as "other income," regardless if the participant itemizes deductions or not.

\$600 or more = 1099 miscellaneous tax form
Less than \$600 = 1040 tax form

FSTA data states, on average over a 12 month period, fantasy sports players spend about \$111 on league related costs, single player challenge games and league related materials. Of these costs, players

pay about \$52 on league fees alone.

Winners of a fantasy league cash prize will have to deal with tax side of the hobby, especially if the prize is disbursed through a legitimate fantasy sports provider. Fantasy football winnings are considered regular income and taxes are owed on all winnings. Most winning participants will simply input their winnings on their 1040 tax forms under the

"other income" line. Gaming institutions aren't required to report that income unless the participant's net income (total winnings minus entry fees) meets or exceeds \$600. It is important to note these deductions cannot exceed the amount of a participant's winnings and expenses must be directly related. For example, a book about fantasy football strategy may be deductible, since it pertains to the hobby, but a subscription

to televised NFL games would likely not qualify, since the subscription benefits the participant beyond simple research.

In cases where a participant wins \$600 or more, the payer is required by the IRS to

report the earnings, which generally results in a 1099 miscellaneous form being sent to the participant, to be filed. From there, the participant will be asked for their name, address and Social Security number.

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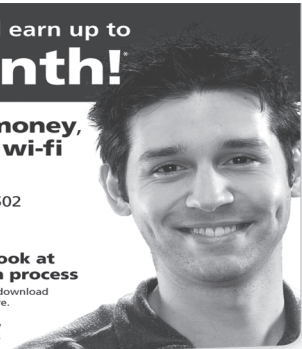


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